

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Related Applications Section (Specification Page 1, beginning on line 3) to read:

Related Applications

This application is a divisional of copending United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/595,963, filed June 19, 2000 (now U. S. Patent 6,719,773) , which is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/420,529, filed October 19, 1999, and entitled "Expandable Preformed Structures for Deployment in Interior Body Regions," now U.S. Patent No. 6,607,544, and which is also a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/088,459, filed June 1, 1998, and entitled "Expandable Preformed Structures for Deployment in Interior Body Regions, now abandoned." This application is also a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/827,260, filed April 5, 2001, and entitled Methods for Treating Fractured and/or Diseased Bone (now U.S. Patent 6,726,691).

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification Page 3, lines 1 to 4, to read:

In one embodiment, the wrapping mechanism is operable to affect differential rotation of one end of the structure about the axis relative to the other end, thereby wrapping the structure inwardly about is its axis.

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification Page 11, lines 9 to 15, to read:

As the luer cap 54 24 is rotated in the direction of the threads 58 (which is clockwise in the drawings, shown by arrow A in Fig. 9), the distal end of the expandable structure 56 rotates in the same direction (shown by arrow B in Fig. 9) while the proximal end of the expandable structure 56 desirably remains substantially stationary.

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification Page 26, lines 26 to 30, to read:

Once the structure 56 has been twisted in one direction, e.g., clockwise, for passage through the cannula ~~76~~ 78 (by rotation of the luer cap 24), the physician can chose to twist the entire catheter tube assembly 10 as it advances through the cannula 78 in the opposite direction, i.e., counterclockwise, which will desirably further reduce the profile of the structure 56.

Please amend the paragraphs in the Specification beginning on Page 33, line 15, and ending on Page 34, line 2 to read:

In use, the physician is able to use a single hand to draw the handle 410 towards the cap 24A, reducing the outer profile of the structure 56A for insertion through a cannula 78. The structure is then advanced through the cannula 78 in this reduced profile condition. Once the structure 56A enters the vertebral body, the handle 410 may be released, allowing the structure 56A to assume its original shape. The structure can then be utilized as previously described.

It should be understood that varying degrees of force may be imparted to the handle 410 to extend the structure 56A to a desired degree. For example, in the disclosed embodiment, a force of 4 ounces will extend the structure approximately 3/16". Similarly, a force of 3 pounds will extend the structure approximately 1/2". Desirably, a force of at least approximately 1/2 ounce will extend the structure to a useful degree. More desirably, a force of at least approximately 2 ounces will extend the structure to a useful degree. Even more desirably, a force of at least approximately 8 ounces will extend the structure to a useful degree. Most desirably, a force of at least approximately 1 pound will extend the structure to a useful degree.

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification Page 34, lines 3 to 18, to read:

The disclosed embodiment further includes a stop which inhibits and/or prevents the assembly 400 from advancing beyond a predetermined distance into the vertebral body (not shown). In this embodiment, as the assembly 400 is advanced to a desired position within the vertebral body, the distal ends of the struts 405 will desirably contact one or more contact surfaces ~~420~~ 402 on the cannula 78, thereby preventing further advancement of the assembly 400 through the cannula 78. (See Figure 17.) Because the struts 405 are connected to the stylet 52A, and the stylet 52A extends to the distal end of the structure 56, the maximum penetration depth of the assembly 400 can be controlled. Even where the profile of the structure 56 has been reduced, the struts 405 will prevent the distal tip of the stylet 52A from advanced further than a predetermined depth.